



AF/16219

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**MAIL STOP AFTER FINAL**

In re application of : **Confirmation No. 5439**  
Peter POCHLAUER et al. : Docket No. 2001\_0331A  
Serial No. 09/834,926 : Group Art Unit 1621  
Filed April 16, 2001 : Examiner P. Zucker

PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF  
OPTICALLY AND CHEMICALLY HIGHLY  
PURE (R) - or (S)- $\alpha$ -HYDROXYCARBOXYLIC  
ACIDS

**RESPONSE TO FINAL REJECTION**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Final Rejection dated November 3, 2003, the period for response having been extended for two months by the attached Petition, please amend the present application as follows: